AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS:

1. (Canceled)

2. (Currently amended) The housing~~method~~ of claim ~~6~~5 wherein the depth of the plurality of grooves is less than the amount of the interference fit between the tubular housing and the end flange.

3. (Currently amended) The housing~~method~~ of claim ~~6~~5 wherein the plurality of grooves are each approximately .250 inch wide.

4. (Currently amended) The housing~~method~~ of claim 3 wherein the amount of interference fit is approximately .010 inch and the depth of the plurality of grooves is approximately .005 inch.

5. (Currently amended) A method of providing a gas-tight joint between an end flange that expands upon heating and a tubular housing having a plurality of grooves formed therein, the end flange and the tubular housing and the plurality of grooves being dimensioned to provide an interference fit after assembly thereof, the method comprising heating the end flange, applying adhesive to the tubular housing about the plurality of grooves, and assembling the tubular housing and the end flange so that the end flange is positioned over the plurality of grooves with sufficient adhesive being retained in said grooves during and after assembly to ensure a gas-tight joint.

6. (Currently amended) A gas-tight housing comprising~~having~~ a tubular housing and an end flange that are dimensioned and assembled to provide an interference fit therebetween after assembly via a heat-shrink assembly process, said ~~the improvement comprising the~~ housing comprising joint-forming means for providing a gas-tight joint, said joint-forming means comprising~~including~~ a plurality of grooves formed in said tubular housing~~therein to which~~ and adhesive being~~is~~ applied in said grooves with said plurality of grooves being dimensioned such that sufficient adhesive is retained in said grooves during and after assembly to ensure a gas-tight joint.